



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

230 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

99752
No. 0000078

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

TO: Persons Interested in the Skinner Landfill Superfund Site

FROM: Gene Wong
Remedial Project Manager
312-353-6341

Jennifer Hall
Community Relations Coordinator
312-886-4359

DATE: October 29, 1987

We wanted to bring you up to date on the status of the remedial investigation at the Skinner Landfill.

LEGAL ACTION AGAINST SITE OWNERS

In our May 1987 Fact Sheet, we explained our intent to pursue legal action against site owners because they had disturbed on-site investigation areas. In an update released in mid-June, we indicated that the owners had agreed not to interfere further with U.S. EPA's planned activities at the landfill. After the agreement was reached, U.S. EPA elected not to pursue legal action.

During subsequent visits to the landfill; U.S. EPA staff discovered that the owners had continued to disturb the investigation areas by piling additional waste materials on top of a buried lagoon. This lagoon is believed to be a major source of site contamination.

On September 24, 1987, U.S. EPA issued an administrative order requiring the owners to provide U.S. EPA access to the site without interference. The order also prohibits the owners from further dumping in the investigation areas.

Under the Superfund law, U.S. EPA may issue an administrative order to gain access to any facility where contamination may have been released in order to study the facility. Should the owners fail to comply with the order, a penalty of up to \$25,000 per day may be assessed.

At this writing, site owners have complied with the order.

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES

U.S. EPA separated the Remedial Investigation (RI) into two phases to learn whether there was contamination migrating from the site that might affect surrounding residents. Phase I is completed, and the Phase I Report is being finalized and should be available for review next month.

EXHIBIT 2

In our last update, we anticipated beginning Phase II activities in late summer, 1987. However, because of the placement of additional waste materials on the buried lagoon area, we were unable to conduct the majority of the field work planned for Phase II. Present site conditions make it necessary to revise our plans for additional work. We expect to continue Phase II activities next spring.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at the phone numbers above, or on our toll free line at 1-800-621-8431 (between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays central time).